Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Canceled)

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A test program protection method comprising:

translating a source file in which an LSI test program is stored by using a primary key owned by a program provider to thereby create a distribution file and a secondary key; and

authorizing creation of an object file of the LSI test program only when the distribution file and the secondary key are used ~~The program protection method according to claim 1~~,

wherein restriction regarding [[the]] a number of times of compilations is put on the secondary key.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A test program protection method comprising:

translating a source file in which an LSI test program is stored by using a primary key owned by a program provider to thereby create a distribution file and a secondary key; and

authorizing creation of an object file of the LSI test program only when the distribution file and the secondary key are used ~~The program protection method according to claim 1~~,

wherein the secondary key is provided with a compilation restriction function by use of a license.

Claim 4 (Original): An LSI test method comprising the steps of:

providing a compiler that receives a source file in which an LSI test program is stored and a scramble format specific to an LSI to output an enciphered test pattern for the LSI;

when the test-subject LSI is set in a test mode, inputting via a test head the enciphered test pattern into the LSI

providing a decoder, in the LSI, which deciphers the enciphered test pattern, to provide the deciphered test pattern to an LSI core; and

deciding whether a signal, sent from the LSI, of response to the test pattern is right or wrong based on a test plan.

Claim 5 (Original): The LSI test method according to claim 4, wherein the scramble format is used to recompose an array sequence of the test pattern which is already arrayed time series-wise, by using a specific recomposing rule prepared for each of the LSIs.